## John McMillan

Commissioner

## STATE OF ALABAMA

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES

1445 Federal Drive • Montgomery, Alabama 36107-1123

Dear Sir or Madam

This letter is to make you aware of a low interest green energy/economic development loan program through the Center for Alternative Fuels, Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries. Start-up USDA funds were recently acquired to enable the Center to provide direct funding and/or partner with other lenders to bring to fruition viable projects that meet broad program guidelines. Individual loan use expands beyond just fuel development and contributing to America's energy security to include minority-owned and women-owned businesses in high unemployment/low income areas.

The initial \$500,000 offering will enable individual loans in the \$25,000-\$125,000 range via the Center for projects based on need, compliance with program guidelines, evaluation of the project objectives, job creation, collateralization, and loan repayment capacity. Loan terms will likely be limited to a maximum of 5-7 years, depending on project scope.

Submitted projects are primarily solicited from counties in Alabama's Black Belt Region\*, but other worthy statewide submissions are encouraged and will be awarded on a case by case basis. Typical project emphasis might address such areas as drought abatement, energy costs, food safety, industry growth, stabilization of local economics, and small business expansion. Again, please note that job creation will be a major factor in individual project evaluation.

For more information on the Intermediary Relending Program, please contact us via the following information:

US Mail: Alabama Department of Agriculture Industries

**ATTN: Center for Alternative Fuels** 

1445 Federal Drive

Montgomery, AL 36109-0336

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Email: caf@agi.alabama.gov

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Facsimile: 334-240-7278

Sincerely,

Glen Zorn

Assistant Commissioner

& Director, Center for Alternative Fuels

\* Counties include: Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Crenshaw, Dallas, Escambia, Greene, Hale, Lowndes, Macon, Marengo, Monroe, Montgomery (not in city limits), Perry, Pickens, Pike, Russell, Sumter, Washington and Wilcox